

I have not yet been able to obtain an Account of the Ordnance and Stores in the Garrison; the Moment it can be procured I will transmit it to your Lordship.

I enclose a List of the Ships and Vessels found in the Harbour.

I have the Honor, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE MARTIN.

*The Right Honorable Lord Keith, K. B.
Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.*

*A List of Vessels found in the Harbour of La Valette,
when the Place capitulated.*

L'Atenian Maltese Ship of Sixty-four Guns, in good Condition.

Le Dego Maltese Ship of Sixty-four Guns, not in a State to proceed to Sea.

La Cartagenoise Maltese Frigate, not in a State to proceed to Sea.

Two Merchant Ships, wanting repair.

One Brig, fit for Sea.

One Zebek and Two other small Vessels.

Five or Six Gun-Boats, not fit for Service.

*Northumberland, off St. Paul's,
29th August 1800.*

MY LORD,

I Have the Honour to acquaint you, that the Frigates La Justice and La Diane sailed from the Harbour of La Valette on the Night of the 24th, and were immediately pursued by His Majesty's Ships off that Port; and that the latter, after a Chace of some Hours; and a running Fight with the Success, struck to that Ship, the Geneveux, and Northumberland. La Justice, I am sorry to add, escaped under Cover of the Night, and has not since been heard of.

La Diane mounts Forty-two Guns, Eighteen and Nine Pounders, but had only One Hundred and Fourteen Men on board, having left the Remainder to assist in the Defence of the Garrison.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE MARTIN.

*The Right Honorable Lord Keith, K. B.
Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.*

Admiralty-Office, October 11, 1800.

*Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Lord Keith,
Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and
Vessels in the Mediterranean, to Evan Nepean, Esq;
dated Foudroyant, Gibraltar-Bay, September 15,
1800.*

SIR,

MY Letter of the 11th Instant will have acquainted their Lordships of my having formed the Resolution of attempting an Enterprize against Two Armed Vessels, reported to be receiving Stores in the Roads of Barcelona for the Relief of Malta. I have now the Satisfaction of informing you, that this Service has been very judiciously arranged by Captain Louis of the Minotaur, and most gallantly and successfully executed by Captain Hillyer of the Niger, and Lieutenant Schomberg of the Minotaur, in the Boats of these Ships, as will appear by the Report made to me thereon by Captain Louis, a Copy of which is herewith enclosed. I have no Doubt that their Lordships will justly appreciate the Merits

of the Officers by whom this gallant and enterprising Service has been performed.

I have the Honor to be, &c. KEITH.

MY LORD,

Minotaur, Sept. 6, 1800.

Knowing how anxious and desirous your Lordship was, as well as the Service to my Country, by cutting out or destroying the Two Corvettes, lying in Barcelona Road, mentioned in your Lordship's Orders to Captain Oliver; and, in order to check the Two Ships sailing upon this intended secret Expedition, induced me to persevere in the following Attempt:

On the Evening of the 3d Instant, after having delivered Captain Hillyer of the Niger his Orders to join your Lordship, a Breeze sprung up from the Westward, with every Appearance of a close Night. I again called him on board, with the Signal at the same Time to prepare Boats. Captain Hillyer and Lieutenant Schomberg volunteered the Service, assisted by Lieutenants Warrant, Lowry, Lieutenant Healy of the Niger, Mr. Reid, Master, and Lieutenant Jewell of the Marines. The Boats left the Minotaur about Eight o'Clock in the Evening. The Firing began from all Quarters near Nine: about Ten o'Clock I had the pleasing Satisfaction to see Two Ships dropping out of the Road under a heavy Fire from the Ships, Four strong Batteries, Ten Gun-Boats, Two Schooners, with Two Forty-two Pounders each—the Fort of Mount Joui the same Time throwing Shells.—The Minotaur and Niger were well placed in good Season to cover the Party. The Service was performed throughout with an enterprising Spirit, good Conduct, and in a gallant Style. The Loss, which I shall inform your Lordship, of Killed and Wounded fell principally upon Two Boats, not great, when compared to the Situation the Number of Boats and so many Men were placed in for a considerable Time. The Ships about Eleven o'Clock were perfectly clear from the Fire of the Enemy's Batteries and Gun-Boats, the Men of War checking the Movements of the latter: the Ships captured, named Conception alias Esmiralda, and La Paz, about Four Hundred Tons, each mounting Twenty-two Brass Guns, Twelve and Nine-Pounders, laden with Provisions and Stores, &c. &c. &c. supposed for Batavia, and on Dutch Account: they were to have taken Three Hundred Troops of the Regiment of Batavian Swifs on board from the Island of Majorca. I found several Dutch Officers on board the Esmiralda. The Officers and several of the Men of La Paz, during the Action, quitted her in Boats. La Paz is a very fine Ship, quite new, never at Sea before, sails remarkably well, and I make no Doubt your Lordship will find her in all Respects calculated for His Majesty's Service; the Esmiralda is also a very fine Ship. I beg Leave strongly to recommend to your Lordship's Notice Captain Hillyer and Lieutenant Schomberg; their Services upon this Occasion deserve the first Attention and highest Praise; at the same Time I cannot pass without Notice the general good Conduct of every Officer and Man serving under my Command.

I herewith send the List of Killed and Wounded.

I have the Honor to be, &c. &c.

THOMAS LOUIS.

*Vice-Admiral Lord Keith, Commander
in Chief, &c. &c. &c.*